

Lesson Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Lesson ID: 61049-83219

Title: HAND HELD RADIO COMMUNICATIONS (SABER)

Operation/Exercise Name: SEA ANGEL

Observed: 11 May 1991

Originator: RLT-5

POC: COL RA GANGLE Commercial:

DSN:

5. (U) OBSERVATION:

Use of hand-held Motorola Saber radios significantly enhanced the command and control of relief operations.

6. (U) DISCUSSION:

The use of Saber hand-held radios, as opposed to heavier, bulkier military radio equipment, proved beneficial to the relief effort. This was particularly true for the logistics operations involved in Sea Angel. Being lightweight, with 5 to 7 mile ranges, and having 24 hour battery life as well as secure voice capability, the SABER was an invaluable tool for coordinating the complex operations involved in the relief effort. At the airhead, during ship-to-shore evolutions, and for transshipment and dispatching functions, the Motorola Saber is an ideal coordination device. Sabers do not require a separate radio operator (cutting down on personnel requirements), do not create a hazardous waste disposal problem from used batteries, and are lighter in weight than the standard-issue alternatives.

7. (U) LESSON LEARNED:

As during combat operations in Desert Storm, the Saber radio is an invaluable high-performance, low-cost piece of equipment particularly well-suited for complex operations requiring a high degree of reliable communications support.

8. (U) RECOMMENDED ACTION:

That the Motorola Saber radio be made part of the infantry regiment and battalion table of equipment. Pending procurement through government contract/purchasing system, local source acquisition for deploying and ready units can make the Saber's benefits available immediately.

9. (U) COMMENTS:  
NONE

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